AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) In a decoupling device (1) for an actuator (2) with a one-part or multiple part decoupling housing (6, 7, 8), which is connected to a function housing (13) and at least partially encompasses the actuator (2), and with decoupling elements (14, 15) comprised of an elastic material, wherein each decoupling element (14, 15) rests against support shoulders (24, 25, 26), the improvement comprising a securing element (19) disposed to extend between and engage at least two sets of decoupling elements (14, 15) each consisting of a plurality of decoupling elements (14, 15), said actuator (2) engaging said securing element (19).

18. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 17, further comprising at least two support shoulders (24, 25, 26) for a decoupling element (14, 15), said support shoulders being constituted by the decoupling housing (6, 7, 8) or the function housing (13).

19. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 17, further comprising two support shoulders (24, 25, 26) for a decoupling element (14, 15), the support shoulders being constituted by the securing element (19).

20. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 18, wherein the set of decoupling elements (14, 15) ~~are disposed in pairs~~ each comprises a pair of decoupling elements.

21. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 18, wherein said securing element (19) has a radial projection (35) extending partially or entirely around it and wherein the securing element (19) has at least one slot (36) in its radial projection (35) in the vicinity of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

22. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 21, wherein said decoupling elements (14, 15) of each set are connected to each other in pairs by an intermediary piece (20).

23. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 18, wherein securing element (19) has a radial projection (35) extending partially or entirely around it and wherein the securing element (19) has at least one recess (45) in its radial projection (35) in the vicinity of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

24. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 18, wherein in the decoupling housing (6, 7, 8) or in the function housing (13), the support shoulders (24, 25, 26) are constituted by means of at least one recess (23) in an outer region of the decoupling housing (6, 7, 8) or function housing (13).

25. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 18, further comprising at least one column (41) in which the support shoulders (24, 25, 26) are constituted by a recess (23) on an end face of the column (41).

26. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 24, wherein said decoupling elements (14, 15) each have a smooth curved outer surface, and wherein said decoupling housing (6, 7, 8) or the function housing (13) and the securing element (19) have axial and radial support shoulders (24.1, 24.2), and at least the axial support shoulders (24.1) are embodied as arc-shaped, and wherein the curvature of the arc-shaped support shoulders (24, 25, 26) at most corresponds to the curvature of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 40, wherein said decoupling elements (14, 15) are embodied as rolling bodies.

29. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 28, wherein said rolling bodies are embodied in the form of balls.

30. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 40, where one set of decoupling elements (14) is disposed in a first plane extending perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (3) and the other set of decoupling elements (15) is disposed in a plane extending parallel to and spaced from the first plane.

31. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 40, wherein said decoupling elements (14, 15) adjoining one another in the circumference direction enclose a uniform angle α in relation to one another.

32. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 17, wherein said decoupling elements (14, 15) of each set are disposed above one another on a line (18) extending parallel to the longitudinal axis (3).

33. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 19, wherein the sets of decoupling elements (14, 15), each comprise a pair of decoupling elements ~~are disposed in pairs~~.

34. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 19, wherein said securing element (19) has a radial projection (35) extending partially or entirely around it and wherein the securing element (19) has at least one slot (36) in its radial projection (35) in the vicinity of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

35. (Previously Presented) The decoupling device according to claim 20, wherein said securing element (19) has a radial projection (35) extending partially or entirely around it and wherein the securing element (19) has at least one slot (36) in its radial projection (35) in the vicinity of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

36. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 19, wherein the securing element (19) has a radial projection (35) extending partially or entirely around it and wherein the securing element (19) has at least one recess (45) in its radial projection (35) in the vicinity of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

37. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 20, wherein the securing element (19) has a radial projection (35) extending partially or entirely around it and wherein the securing element (19) has at least one recess (45) in its radial projection (35) in the vicinity of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

38. (Currently Amended) The decoupling device according to claim 25, wherein said decoupling elements (14, 15) each have a smooth curved surface, and wherein said decoupling housing (6, 7, 8) or the function housing (13) and the securing element (19) have axial and radial support shoulders (24.1, 24.2), and at least the axial support shoulders (24.1) are embodied as arc-shaped, and wherein the curvature of the arc-shaped support shoulders (24, 25, 26) at most corresponds to the curvature of the decoupling elements (14, 15).

39. (Currently Amended) In a decoupling device (1) for an electric motor (2) with a one-part or multiple part decoupling housing (6, 7, 8), which is connected to a function housing (13) and at least partially encompasses the actuator (2), and with decoupling elements (14, 15) comprised of an elastic material, wherein each decoupling element (14, 15) rests against support shoulders (24, 25, 26), the improvement comprising a securing element (19) disposed to extend between and engage at least two sets of decoupling elements each consisting of a plurality of decoupling elements (14, 15), said actuator (2) engaging said securing element (19).

40. (Previously Presented) In a decoupling device (1) for an actuator (2) with a one-part or multiple part decoupling housing (6, 7, 8), which is connected to a function housing (13) and at least partially encompasses the actuator (2), and with decoupling elements (14, 15) comprised of an elastic material, wherein each decoupling element (14, 15) rests against support shoulders (24, 25, 26), the improvement comprising a securing element (19) disposed to extend between and engage at least two sets of decoupling elements (14, 15), said actuator (2) engaging said securing element (19), said decoupling device (1) having a longitudinal axis (3), the support shoulders (24, 25, 26) for the decoupling elements (14, 15) being embodied in relation to one another so that a rotational axis (27) of the decoupling elements (14, 15) extends obliquely to the longitudinal axis (3).